

## **Colorado Crop Progress**

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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**Agricultural Summary:** Conditions across Colorado continue to be extremely dry. Most of the State experienced precipitation levels well-below average for this time of year and temperatures during the week were a little below average. Overall, mountain snowpack is 103 percent of the average. Farmers were allowed 5.0 days in the field for spring operations.

TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT					
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
This Week	38	48	12	2	
Last Week	33	50	15	2	
Last Year	14	27	50	4	

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT						
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus		
This Week	19	39	41	1		
Last Week	22	35	42	1		
Last Year	11	28	54	6		

**Field Crops:** Twelve percent of the winter wheat crop was reported being pastured last week. The crop was rated in mostly fair to good condition. Spring barley was 8 percent seeded by week's end while spring wheat was 2 percent planted. Dry onions were 15 percent planted, 8 percent ahead of the 5 year average.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT Week ending March 15, 2009						
	Very	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	
	Poor					
Winter Wheat						
This Week	5	11	33	45	6	
Last Year	11	20	38	25	6	

**Pasture and Range:** Pasture and range feed conditions were rated mostly fair to very poor across the State. The Eastern Plains are experiencing an abnormally dry winter but with the mountain snowpack still above average ranchers are hopeful for conditions to improve.

**Livestock:** Forty-two percent of cows have calved since January 1<sup>st</sup> while 29 percent of the ewes have lambed during the same time frame. Death losses for cattle were slightly below average while sheep were average for the week. Stored feed supplies are rated above average for this time of year.

## PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT Week ending March 15, 2009

	Very	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-
	Poor				lent
Pasture & Range-2009	20	27	37	15	1
Prev. Year – 2008	7	26	44	23	0
5-Year Avg.	11	26	42	20	1

Spring 2009 Calving and Lambing				
	2009	5-Yr Avg.		
Cows Calved since Jan 1	42	40		
Ewes Lambed since Jan 1	29	30		

## **COLORADO CROP PROGRESS**

Development Ratings for Week Ending March 15, 2009

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
W/24 W/14				
Winter Wheat				
Pastured	12	8	8	7
Spring Barley				
Seeded	8	1	2	8
Spring Wheat				
Planted	2	0	1	0
Dry Onions				
Planted	15	N/A	3	7

USDA NASS Colorado Field Office Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Service

Colorado Department of Agriculture